

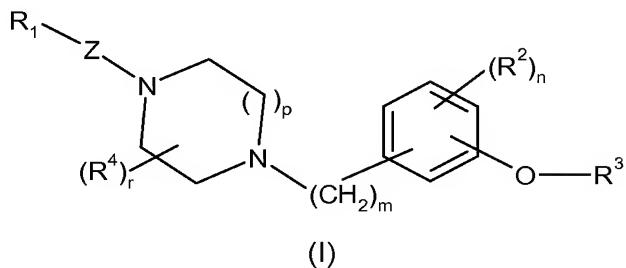
Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



wherein:

R¹ represents phenyl which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents which may be the same or different and which are selected from the group consisting of: halogen; trifluoromethyl; -C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted by COOR¹⁵; -C₁₋₆alkoxy optionally substituted by COOR¹⁵; hydroxy; oxo; cyano; -C₁₋₆alkyl-cyano; C₁₋₆alkenyl optionally substituted by COOR¹⁵; C₃₋₇cycloalkyl; C₁₋₆alkylsulfonyl; C₁₋₆alkenoxy; C₁₋₆alkylthio; NR¹⁵R¹⁶; -C₁₋₆alkyl-aryl; aryl; -CO-aryl optionally substituted by halogen; -CO-heteroaryl; -CO-heterocycl; -COOR¹⁵; -COR¹⁵; -CONR¹⁵R¹⁶ optionally substituted by C₁₋₆alkyl, halogen or -C₁₋₆alkylC₁₋₆alkoxy; and -C₁₋₆alkyl-CO-aryl groups; and in which

R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ independently represent hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₃₋₈cycloalkyl or together may be fused to form a 5- to 7-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by an O or S atom and optionally substituted by a halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkylC₁₋₆alkoxy group;

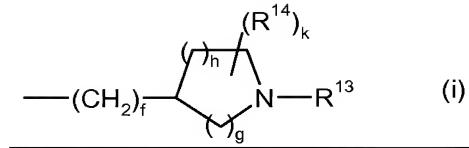
Z represents CO;

r is 0;

p is 1;

m is 0;

R³ represents group of formula (i):



wherein

f is 0;

g is 2;

h is 1;

k is 0; and

R¹³ represents C₁₋₆alkyl or C₃₋₈cycloalkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

~~R¹ represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₃₋₈cycloalkyl, C₁₋₆alkylC₃₋₈cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, C₁₋₆alkyl-aryl, C₁₋₆alkyl-heteroaryl, C₁₋₆alkyl-heterocyclyl, aryl-aryl, aryl-heteroaryl, aryl-heterocyclyl, heteroaryl-aryl, heteroaryl-heteroaryl, heteroaryl-heterocyclyl, heterocyclyl-aryl, heterocyclyl-heteroaryl, heterocyclyl-heterocyclyl,~~

~~wherein R¹ may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents which may be the same or different, and which are selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, COOR¹⁵, cyano, C₁₋₆alkyl-cyano, nitro, exo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, fluromethoxy, difluoromethoxy, C₁₋₆alkyl (optionally substituted by a COOR¹⁵ group), C₂₋₆alkenyl (optionally substituted by a COOR¹⁵ group), C₂₋₆alkynyl (optionally substituted by a COOR¹⁵ group), C₁₋₆alkoxy (optionally substituted by a COOR¹⁵ group), pentafluoroethyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₂₋₆alkenoxy, aryl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, CO-aryl (optionally substituted by a halogen atom), CO-heteroaryl, C₁₋₆alkyl-CO-aryl, arylC₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, C₁₋₆alkoxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkylC₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulfonyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulfinyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulfonyloxy, C₁₋₆alkylsulfonylC₁₋₆alkyl, sulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyloxy, arylsulfonylC₁₋₆alkyl, aryloxy, C₁₋₆alkylsulfonamido, C₁₋₆alkylamide, C₁₋₆alkylsulfonamideC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylamideC₁₋₆alkyl, arylsulfonamido, arylcarboxamido, arylsulfonamidoC₁₋₆alkyl, arylcarboxamideC₁₋₆alkyl, aroyl, aroylC₁₋₆alkyl, arylC₁₋₆alkanoyl, or a group COR¹⁵, NR¹⁵R¹⁶, CONR¹⁵R¹⁶, NR¹⁵COR¹⁶, NR¹⁵SO₂R¹⁶ or SO₂NR¹⁵R¹⁶, wherein R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ independently represent hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₃₋₈cycloalkyl or together may be fused to form a 5- to 7-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by an O or S atom and optionally substituted by a halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkylC₁₋₆alkoxy group;~~

~~Z represents a bond, CO, CON(R¹⁰) or SO₂, such that when R⁴ represents hydrogen,~~
~~Z represents CONR¹⁰;~~

~~p is 1 or 2;~~

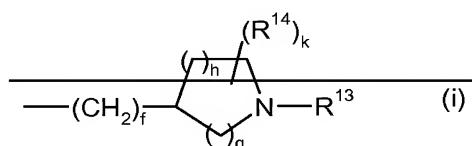
~~m, n and r independently represent 0, 1 or 2;~~

~~R² represents halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, cyano, amino or trifluoromethyl, such that when n represents 2, two R² groups may instead be linked to form a phenyl ring;~~

~~R⁴ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, such that when r represents 2, two R⁴ groups may instead be linked to form a CH₂, (CH₂)₂ or (CH₂)₃ group;~~

~~R¹⁰ represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl, or R¹⁰, together with R⁴ forms a heterocyclic group;~~

~~R³ represents (CH₂)_q NR¹¹R¹² or a group of formula (i):~~



~~wherein q is 2, 3 or 4;~~

~~R¹¹ and R¹² independently represent C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent an N-linked nitrogen containing heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by one or more R¹⁷ groups;~~

~~R¹³ represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl-C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl aryl or heterocyclyl;~~

~~R¹⁴ and R¹⁷ independently represent halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, haloalkyl, OH, diC₁₋₆ alkylamino, C₁₋₆ alkoxy or heterocyclyl;~~

~~f and k independently represent 0, 1 or 2;~~

~~g is 0, 1 or 2 and h is 0, 1, 2 or 3, such that g and h cannot both be 0;~~

~~with the proviso that when m represents 1, n and r both represent 0 and R³ represents -(CH₂)₃-N-piperidine or -(CH₂)₃-N(ethyl)₂, R⁴-Z represents a group other than methyl, CO-O-C(CH₃)₃ or benzyl;~~

~~and with the proviso that when m, n and r all represent 0, p represents 1, R³ represents~~

~~(CH₂)₃-N-pyrrolidine or (CH₂)₃-N-piperidine, R⁴ represents benzyl, Z represents a group other than a bond;~~

~~and with the proviso that when m, n and r all represent 0, p represents 1, R³ represents~~

~~(CH₂)₃-N-piperidine, R⁴ represents isopropyl, Z represents a group other than a bond;~~

~~and with the proviso that when m represents 1, n and r both represent 0, p represents 1, R³ represents -(CH₂)₃-N-piperidine, R⁴ represents methyl, isopropyl, aryl or benzyl, Z represents a group other than a bond;~~
~~and with the proviso that when m and n both represent 0, R³ represents -(CH₂)₃-N(ethyl)₂, p represents 1, r represents 2 and R⁴ and R⁴ both represent methyl, Z represents a group other than a bond;~~
~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.~~

2-11. (Cancelled)

Add the following new claims:

12. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl which may be optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents which may be the same or different and which are selected from the group consisting of: chlorine, fluorine, bromine; trifluoromethyl; methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, propyl, t-butyl (optionally substituted by COOH, COOMe or COOEt); methoxy, butoxy, -OCH(Me)₂, -OC(Me)₃ (optionally substituted by COOH or COOMe); hydroxy; oxo; cyano; -CH₂CN; ethenyl (optionally substituted by COOMe); cyclopentyl; -SO₂Me; -OCH₂CH=CH₂; -S-ethyl; N(Me)₂; benzyl; phenyl; -CO-phenyl (optionally substituted by chlorine); -CO-azetidinyl; -CO-tetrahydropyranyl; COOH, COOMe, COOt-butyl; -CO-methyl, -CO-ethyl, -CO-isopropyl, -CO-cyclopropyl, -CO-cyclobutyl, -CO-cyclopentyl, -CO-cyclohexyl; -CONH₂, -CO-pyrrolidinyl, -CO-morpholinyl, -CO-piperazinyl, -CO-piperidinyl, -CO-thiomorpholinyl (optionally substituted by methyl, fluorine and -CH₂OMe); or -CH₂COphenyl groups;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl substituted by C₁₋₆alkylsulfonyl.

14. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl substituted by SO₂Me.

15. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl substituted by SO₂Me at the para position.
16. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein -O-R³ is present at the para position of the phenyl group with respect to the rest of the compound.
17. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹³ represents isopropyl, cyclopropyl or cyclobutyl.
18. (New) A compound according to claim 13, wherein R¹³ represents isopropyl, cyclopropyl or cyclobutyl.
19. (New) A compound according to claim 14, wherein R¹³ represents isopropyl, cyclopropyl or cyclobutyl.
20. (New) A compound which is 1-(4-{[1-(1-methylethyl)-4-piperidinyl]oxy}phenyl)-4-{[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]carbonyl}piperazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
21. (New) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
22. (New) A method of treatment of diseases of the upper respiratory tract which comprises administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claims 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
23. (New) A method of treatment according to claim 21 in which the disease is allergic rhinitis.
24. (New) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 18 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

25. (New) A method of treatment of diseases of the upper respiratory tract which comprises administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claims 18 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

26. (New) A method of treatment according to claim 25 in which the disease is allergic rhinitis.

27. (New) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 19 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

28. (New) A method of treatment of diseases of the upper respiratory tract which comprises administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claims 19 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (New) A method of treatment according to claim 28 in which the disease is allergic rhinitis.